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ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

Shiloh Church, Dallas County, Alabama,

August 5, 6 and 7, 1890.

OFFICERS.

H. S. D. MALLORY, MODERATOR.....Selma, Ala.
W. F. MOSELEY, CLERK.....Marion Junction, Ala.
J. F. ELLIS, TREASURER.....Soapstone, Ala.

TO PREACH NEXT YEAR:

Introductory Sermon, J. M. McCORD. Missionary Sermon, A. J. DICKINSON.

The next session will be held with Mt. Gilead Church, Lowndes County, Ala., near Benton, on the Western Railroad, beginning at 10 a. m., Tuesday after the first Sunday in August, 1891.

MONTGOMERY, ALA:
PRESS OF THE BAPTIST PRINTING COMPANY.
1890.

NOTICE.

Minutes of 1885 wanted to complete the file. Any one having a copy will confer a favor by sending it to the Clerk.

W. F. Moseley, Marion Junction, Ala.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon, 11 A. M.
2. Association called to order after twenty minutes for devotional exercises.
3. Read letters, enroll delegates, record statistics, etc.
4. Election of officers.
5. Applications for membership.
6. Appoint committees to report this session on (1) religious exercises, (2) finance, (3) state of the churches, (4) documents, (5) time and place, (6) apportionment.
7. Receive correspondents and visitors from (1) associations, (2) boards, etc.
8. Report of Executive Board.
9. Appoint standing committees to report next session on (1) missions, (2) Sunday-schools, (3) education, (4) temperance, (5) ministerial education, (6) indigent ministers fund, (7) literature.
10. Elect Executive Board.
11. Reports of standing committees appointed last year, (1) missions, (2) Sunday-schools, etc., as laid down in ninth of this order.
12. Return correspondents to (1) associations, (2) appoint delegates to—(1) State Convention, (2) Southern Baptist Convention.
13. Report of special committees as per sixth of this order.

Note.—Recess and adjournment as suits the body. First half hour after every call to order to be given to devotional exercises, followed by miscellaneous business. Music at intervals. Other religious exercises arranged by committee on that subject.

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES TO REPORT NEXT YEAR.

State Missions, M. A. Keith, Selma, Ala.
Home Missions, J. M. Fortune, Pleasant Hill, Ala.
Foreign Missions, Sidney Catts, Pleasant Hill, Ala.
Sunday-schools, B. F. Ellis, Orrville, Ala.
Education, W. D. Gay, Furman, Ala.
Temperance, A. Edwards, Collirine, Ala.
Ministerial Education, J. M. McCord, Orrville, Ala.
Indigent Ministers Fund, M. H Traylor, Benton, Ala.
Literature, Miles Hardy, Jr., Soapstone, Ala.

MINUTES.

The Selma Baptist Association met, in eighth annual session, with Shiloh Baptist church, Dallas county, Ala., Tuesday, August 5th, 1890.

At 11 a. m., Rev. Wm. D. Gay, of Furman, in place of Rev. W. G. Curry, preached the Introductory sermon from the text: "Let us search and try our ways and turn again to the Lord." Lam. 3—40.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 p. m. Devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. Purser of Birmingham.

Bro. A. D. Lawhon, Moderator pro tem., called the Association to order for organization.

Brethren J. R. Crumpton and M. H. Traylor read the letters from the churches, and the following delegates were enrolled:

Ash Creek—W. W. Robinson, G. K. Bradley.
Benton—W. H. May, Jack Dudley, R. E Bostwick.
Bethany—A. Edwards, J. W Todd, F. B. Walker, D. Lyon.
Centre Ridge—W. T. Jones J. P. Melton, T. J. Rowell, Jos. Swink, R. W. Watson.
Mt. Gilead—A. D. Lawhon, W. D. Morgan, M. H. Traylor.
Orrville—B. F. Ellis, J. F. Averytt, F. G. DuBose, W. F. Moseley.
Pleasant Hill—T. E Williams, J. W. Bailey, S. M. Carter, Dr. U. J. Crumpton, J. R. Crumpton.
Providence—Lewis Johnson, B. P. Moseley, R. B. Hare.
Selma—H. S. D. Mallory, J. W. Stillwell, M. A. Keith, T. M. Johnson.
Shiloh—Jere. Johnson, Sr., D. B. Edwards, Jos. Lide, James Lide, John B. Wood.
Sister Springs—M. L. Grumbles, Henry Miley, Oscar Whatley, Buoy Smoke.
Town Creek—R. B. Hardy, J. T. Pierce, R. S. Ellis, Willie Quarles, J. F. Ellis.
Delegates by virtue of being pastors of churches in Association, viz.: Revs. S. J. Catts, J. M. Fortune, J. M. McCord, A. J. Dickinson, J. M. Smoke, D. W. Ramsey, Wm. D. Gay.
Ordained Ministers—J. M. Fortune, Pleasant Hill, Ala.; J. M. McCord, Orrville, Ala.; S. J. Catts, Pleasant Hill, Ala.; A. J. Dickinson, Selma, Ala.; H. H. Shell; J. M. Smoke, Soapstone, Ala.
Licentiate—J. Evan Barnes, Robbins' X Roads, Ala.

Bro. A. D. Lawhon thanked the body for past honors, and begged to be relieved. On motion, Rev. J. M. Fortune was authorized to cast the vote of the Association for Hon. H. S. D. Mallory, of Selma, for Moderator. Bro. Lewis Johnson moved that Dr. U. J. Crumpton cast the vote of the Association for W. F. Moseley, of Orrville, for Secretary. So ordered. On motion, Bro. J. F. Ellis, of Town Creek, was re-elected Treasurer by acclamation.

Correspondents were received as follows:

Associations—Alabama, Prof. J. M. McIver; Cahaba, Col. J. T. Murfee; Geneva, Rev. H. H. Shell; Pine Barren, Revs. D. W. Ramsey and W. D. Gay,

State Mission Board, Rev. W. B. Crumpton; Home, Rev. G. S. Anderson; Foreign, Rev. J. M. Fortune; Ministerial Education, Rev. G. S. Anderson.

Other Interests—Judson Institute, Dr. S. W. Averett; Howard College, Dr. B. F. Riley, Dr. D. I. Purser; Alabama Baptist, Rev. C. W. Hare.

All members in good standing are authorized to represent this Association in sister Associations.

On motion of Bro. Lewis Johnson a committee was apponted to select ten delegates to the State Convention and one to Southern Baptist Convention. The Moderator appointed Lewis Johnson, B. P. Moseley and Jere. Johnson on this committee.

The Executive Board reported that nothing had transpired demanding official action.

Committees to report this session:

Religious Exercises—D. B. Edwards, Miles Hardy, J r., Rev. S. J. Catts.
Finance—Lewis Johnson, T. M. Johnson, M. H. Traylor.
Documents—J. W. Bailey, Paul Johnson, D. Lyon.
Time and Place—R. B. Hare, R. B. Hardy, J. F. Ellis, W. D. Morgan, F. G. DuBose.
Appointment—B. F. Ellis, M. A. Keith, D. B. Edwards, J. R. Crumpton, Jos. Swink.
State of Religion in Churches—S. J. Catts, J. M. Fortune, A. D. Lawhon.

Rev. W. D. Gay, J. F. Averytt and S. M. Carter were appointed to vacancies on the Ministerial Education Committee.

On motion of Bro. B. F. Ellis, the subject of Education was made the special order for 10 a. m. to-morrow (Wednesday).

Committee on Religious Exercises reported that Rev. H. H. Shell would preach to-night and Rev. J. M. Smoke would conduct devotional exercises to-morrow morning.

On motion, Rev. W. D. Gay cast the vote of the Association for the present Executive Board, consisting of the following brethren: B. F. Ellis, H. S. D. Mallory, Jos. Swink, D. B. Edwards, Miles Hardy, Jr.

Rev. J. M. Fortune read the following report:

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your committee report the following: The outlook for all missions, though not all that we could wish, is, nevertheless, encouraging. Over the field occupied by the Southern Baptist Convention, interest in the Mission cause is slowly—too slowly—but steadily growing (It is needless for us to say that the spirit of Missions is the spirit of Christ; and our interest in Missions is in exact proportion to the measure of His Spirit which we possess.)

STATE MISSIONS.

The work of our State Mission Board is, perhaps, more thoroughly organized and on a more solid basis than at any time in its history. But the means at its command are inadequate to its great work. Our State is rapidly becoming a net-work of railroads, and new towns and cities, and new indus-

tries are springing into existence almost in a day. The people who inhabit these places are from all parts of the world, and the majority of them, perhaps, "have no hope, and are without God in the world." But some are professed Christians, who need encouragement and help. We ought to give these people the Gospel, by planting a Baptist church in every centre of influence in the State; thus keeping the cause of our Master abreast of the wonderful development of our great and growing State.

During the last conventional year the Board had in its employ, besides the Corresponding Secretary and his clerk, 53 devoted missionaries for the whole or part of their time, who did an immense amount of work which seemed to be signally blessed of God. The Board is now publishing the *State Mission Quarterly* at 15 cents per annum, or 10 copies for $1.00.

HOME MISSIONS.

Our Home Mission Board is greatly encouraged in its work. In its last annual report to the Southern Baptist Convention the Board reported both an increase of work done and of funds received.

Year by year this Board is extending its operations, and reaching farther into the fields of destitution in its territory. The field of operation for this Board is the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention, including Indians and Negroes, and the Island of Cuba. We can not too strongly urge the claims of this Board. Much of its work is in destitute regions where no other outside agency is at work. Besides, it helps many of our State Boards. For the last several years there has been a constant influx of all nationalities to this country. Many of these people find their way down South. They bring communism, anarchism and other dangerous sentiments that endanger our country, and ruin the souls of men.

The Home Board is the only agency Southern Baptists have for supplying the destitution thus made. Last convention year the Board had employed 371 missionaries, 15 of whom labored in Alabama.

Our Home Field, the official organ of the Board, is published monthly, at the low price of twenty-five cents a year, and should be read by every Baptist.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Our Foreign Mission Board reports advances along the line. It has, within the last two years, increased its working force by the appointment of forty new missionaries. It now has employed 78 foreign missionaries, besides native assistants. It reports 62 organized churches, in heathen lands, with twenty-nine ordained native preachers, and 2,213 members. It received the past year $10 150.45 more than the year previous, and $27,908.02 more than the annual average annual receipts for the last ten years.

The Foreign Mission Journal has been enlarged and changed to a 32 page magazine, published monthly at 50 cents per annum.

There is cause for gratitude to God for the success of our missions. But we have not done our full duty yet. There are in Alabama, in round numbers, 96,000 white Baptists, and they contributed last convention year to all missions—State, Home and Foreign—only $22,665.66, which is a fraction more than 23 cents per capita. Verily we are playing at missions. Let us do more in the future.

J. M. FORTUNE, Ch'n.

On motion of Bro. Catts, the subject of Missions was made the special order of business for 10 a. m. Thursday. After the report on Hospitality, by Bro. D. B. Edwards, the Association adjourned until 9 a. m. to-morrow (Wednesday).

SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

9. a. m. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. M. Smoke.

Called to order at 9:30. Prayer by Dr. B. F. Riley. Minutes read and approved.

Bro. McCord moved that three committees be appointed to report on State, Home and Foreign Missions, respectively. Carried.

Bro. M. A. Keith read the following report.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your committee find great pleasure in reporting that the matter of education is exciting public attention as never before. From the highest to the lowest our people throughout the country are moving in the interest of education—denominational education, a spirit we would emphasize and commend without ceasing. It is the safeguard against the educational innovations of the times. It is a protection to our homes; the hope of our people, and the guarantee of a future ministry.

We have under the auspices of our denomination three institutions that demand our special attention, viz:

First. the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, our "school of the prophets," located at Louisville, Ky., is in an exceedingly gratifying condition.

Second, Howard College, for the education of the Baptist male youth of the State, is located at East Lake, six miles from Birmingham, and, according to the late annual report of the president, is in a most prosperous condition. Last session there were in attendance 170 students, and, in some respects, it was the best year in the history of the college. The work done was excellent, and the enthusiasm among the students boundless. Several new features have been introduced into the college looking to the extension of the course. One of these was the election of a new professor. Arrangements have been made, we are informed, to dispose of the furniture of the dormitory of the college and to replace it with the best and most comfortable that can be obtained. Plans are on foot to establish a vegetable farm and dairy, by which the students are to be supplied with fresh vegetables, milk and butter. Through the efforts of Dr. D. I. Purser, the financial secretary of Howard College, the main building is in course of erection.

Third. the Judson Female Institute, located at Marion, is in a flourishing condition. The splendid new building has given fresh impetus to the Institute, as indicated by the attendance last session. There were in attendance 153 young ladies, about 100 of whom were boarders.

The handsome subscription of $25,000, made to the Howard and the Judson by our last State convention, evidences the pride our people have in these institutions. These institutions all deserve and need our continual support, and we commend them to your fostering care and encouragement.

M. A Keith, Chairman.

The report was discussed by Drs. Averett, Riley and Murfee. The hour having arrived for the sermon, the report laid over for afternoon session.

Missionary sermon at 11:40 a. m. by Rev. J. M. McCord.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2. p. m. Devotional exercises of 30 minutes were conducted by Rev. A. J. Dickinson.

The Moderator resumed the chair. The discussion of Report on Education was resumed. Report on Ministerial Education was read for information. Dr. Purser spoke to the general report on Education, making special mention of the Ministers Summer Institute at East Lake, closing with a request for subscriptions

with which to build the Howard College Dormitory; twenty thousand dollars being the amount needed. The report on Education was adopted.

The following report was read by Rev. W. D. Gray:

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We all wish for and appreciate an educated ministry. While we do not believe that the Gospel is to be preached by educated men only—because our Lord chose for his disciples illiterate men as a class—yet we believe it is incumbent upon us to do what we can to educate our ministers as highly as possible, and that we urge upon all our young men to prepare as fully as possible before they go regularly into the ministry.

Our young men are being helped by the Associations. Dr. M. B. Wharton reported at the State Convention last November, that the Board of Ministerial Education is supporting twenty-two students at Howard, four at the Seminary, two at high schools—total, twenty-eight. These young men are reported to favorably compare with students of any other college in the country. Brethren Chas. Elliott, H. H. Shell and J. E. Barnes were helped, through the Board, by this Association to the amount of $300 00. They are reported as worthy men, and as appreciative of our help.

The work of the Ministers' Institute, organized this year at East Lake, is commended to us. Our ministers are invited there one month in each year. Great benefit can be derived from the lectures made by proficient brethren. There were seventy ministers in attendance this year, and a greater number is expected next year.

OUTLOOK.—The prospects before us are very encouraging for a movement all along this line of work. Many young men, called of God, are preparing themselves for the ministry, and hundreds of our pastors are preparing themselves for greater usefulness. Let us sustain this work with a liberal contribution.

WM. D. GAY, Chairman.

The report was discussed by Revs. G. S. Anderson, W. B. Crumpton, C. W. Hare, W. D. Gay, J. M. Fortune and J. M. McCord, and was adopted.

The committee to select delegates to State and Southern Baptist Conventions reported through the chairman, Bro. Lewis Johnson, the following names:

State Convention—W. E. Clark, B. F. Ellis, D. B. Edwards, J. H. Williamson, P. W. Johnson, E. V. Mollett, W. H. May, M. L. Grumbles, Thos. M. Johnson and M. A. Keith.

Southern Baptist Convention—H. S. D. Mallory; B. F. Ellis, alternate.

The report was adopted.

On motion of Bro. B. F. Ellis, Rev. J. M. Fortune was requested to represent the Foreign Mission Board.

Dr. U. J. Crumpton read the report on Temperance, which, after a warm discussion, was, on motion of Bro. Dickinson, recommitted, with instructions to the effect that total abstinence be advised instead of a moderate use of spirits.

Bro. P. W. Johnson read the following report:

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your committee find a decrease of seven in the membership of the different churches composing this Association.

We find, also, that several churches report no Sabbath-school or prayer-meeting.

Mt. Gilead and Providence churches invite the Association to meet with them the next session.

We would impress on the *clerks* of the churches the importance of giving *full* and *reliable statistics*.

J. W. BAILEY, Chairman.

Adopted.

The Treasurer's report was read by Bro. J. F. Ellis, as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. F. Ellis, in account with Selma Association.

1889.								
				DR.				
Aug.	9.	To cash from Finance Committee					$	125 10
				CR.				
"	9.	By voucher No	1,	W. B. Crumpton			46 72	
"	"	"	2,	"			28 38	
"	"	"	3,	"			17 75	
"	"	"	4,	"			14 50	
"	"	"	5,	"			1 50	
"	"	"	1,	J. M. McIver			16 25	—125 10

J. F. ELLIS, Treasurer.

August 6, 1890.

Approved.

Adjourned until 9 a. m. to-morrow (Thursday).

THIRD DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

9 a. m. Devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. D. W. Ramsey.

The following report was read and adopted:

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

Your Committee beg leave to report as follows:

CHURCHES.	Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Total.
Ash Creek	$ 15 00	$ 5 00	$ 20 00
Benton	15 00	5 00	20 00
Bethany	25 00	5 00	30 00
Center Ridge	50 00	15 00	65 00
Mt. Gilead	50 00	15 00	65 00
Orrville	50 00	25 00	75 00
Pleasant Hill	70 00	20 00	90 00
Providence	75 00	25 00	100 00
Selma	500 00	150 00	650 00
Sister Springs	5 00	5 00	10 00
Shiloh	70 00	10 00	80 00
Town Creek	75 00	20 00	95 00
	$1000 00	$ 300 00	$1300 00

We would urge and request of the churches that one-half of the above amounts be paid by the 1st of November next.

Respectfully submitted, B. F. ELLIS, Chairman.

Bro. Lewis Johnson read the Report on Finance, which was adopted.

Dr. U. J. Crumpton then read report on Temperance, as amended after recommitment yesterday:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance means moderation, conservatism and opposition to all extremes. Even good measures may be so abused as to prove annoying and disgusting. Moderation should be the watchword of every good citizen, especially those who propose to emulate the example of the meek and lowly Savior. Temperance in all intoxicants of whatever nature, calculated to create hyperexcitement of the nervous and circulatory systems, is that which most interests us. The improper use of every injurious and poisonous drug and material is seriously objectionable and should be discouraged and remonstrated against as absolutely sinful. The use of ardent spirits is undoubtedly the source of more trouble, suffering and sorrow than all other causes combined. The new version renders the meaning of the term, "self control," and a more recent version renders it, "prohibition." The latter has been preached and practiced with gratifying results; the strong arm of the law has been stretched forth and every effort should be made to enforce the laws, as they now exist, and to make them even more stringent, if possible, for certainly there can be no more dreaded foe to humanity than drunkenness. Public sentiment should stamp with condemnation the use of ardent spirits, except as a medicinal agent when absolutely neces ary.

Then let this be the motto emblazoned on our church banner, "Touch not, taste not, handle not the unclean thing."

U. J. Crumpton, Ch'n.

The report was discussed by Revs. G. S. Anderson, W. B. Crumpton, C. W. Hare, and then adopted.

Rev. W. D. Gay offered the following preamble and resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, The terrible demon of morphia is gaining ground among the people in this part of the State; and

Whereas, The drug stores are selling so much morphine, opium, etc., simply for this demon to feed himself; therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association, that, next to alcohol, this is the greatest evil undermining the foundation of society, impeding the progress of the gospel, and that we, as a body, recommend all to abstain from its use, and that our preachers neglect no longer to warn the people of their danger.

Bro. M. H. Traylor read the following report:

REPORT ON LITERATURE.

We find it rather difficult to approach a subject so full of interest to all. Vile literature is circulated among our boys and girls of to-day, and no one can estimate the injury done thereby. The literature that goes into our families should be of the purest type, as the characters of our children are formed to a great extent by what they read. What should and could be said about the literature that enters into our families would fill page after page and volume after volume.

We recommend most heartily to our people the *Alabama Baptist*. Without it, our people can know but little about Baptist affairs in our State. Our Colportage Board, located at Opelika, J. B. Collier, secretary, should receive the patronage of our people and contributions from our churches. The mission papers mentioned in the report on missions should be in every home. For our Sunday-schools, we recommend the Kind Words series, published under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Convention, and owned

by said convention. A postal card addressed to *Kind Words*, Atlanta, Ga., will bring back information as to price.

We also recommend the purchase of libraries of religious story books for the children to take the place of the pernicious literature, already mentioned. They can be purchased through our Colportage Board for three dollars and upwards.

A. Edwards,
Joe. Swink,
M. H. Traylor,
Committee.

Adopted.

Bro. Miles Hardy, Jr., submitted the following report:

REPORT ON INDIGENT MINISTERS' FUND.

If there are any indigent ministers in the bounds of the State they certainly receive very little assistance from their brethren. If there are no indigent ministers in the State, why the necessity of the fund? After diligent inquiry into the subject the committee can find no indigent ministers either in the bounds of our Association or of our denomination in the State. We are inclined to think that the fund is a dead letter on the minutes of our Association.

We, therefore, recommend that we either find some indigent ministers, and add to their support by our help, vigilant and substantial, or that we strike the subject from our order of business.

Miles Hardy, Jr, Ch'n.

Adopted.

As per special order, the report on Missions was taken up and discussed by Revs. W. B. Crumpton, C. W. Hare, G. S. Anderson and J. M. Fortune. The report was adopted.

REPORT ON TIME AND PLACE.

We recommend that Tuesday after the first Sunday in August, 1891, be the time, and Mt. Gilead church be the place of the next meeting of this Association.

R. B. Hare, Ch'n.

Bro. Lawhon moved that Rev. J. M. McCord preach the introductory sermon and Rev. A. J. Dickinson the missionary sermon next session. So ordered.

Bro. J. F. Ellis suggested that a committee be appointed to arrange a program for next session, but, on motion, this was made the duty of the Executive Board.

On motion of Bro. B. F Ellis the money collected yesterday was turned over to Rev. W. B. Crumpton for distribution.

The Moderator announced the following committees to report next session.

State Missions—M. A Keith, A. D. Lawhon, W. W. Robinson.
Home Missions—J. M. Fortune, Thos. M. Johnson, Jos Swink.
Foreign Missions—S J. Catts, J. F. Averytt, G. K. Bradley.
Sunday Schools—B. F. Ellis, Lewis Johnson, R. B. Hardy.
Education—W. D. Gay, B. P. Moseley, Jno. W. Wood.
Temperance—Alford Edwards, W. H. May, F. G. DuBose.
Ministerial Education—J. M. McCord, W. D Morgan, D. B. Edwards.
Indigent Ministers' Fund—M. H. Traylor, T. E Williams, F. B. Walker.
Literature—Miles Hardy, Jr., J. R. Crumpton, J. P. Melton.

Adjourned until 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened with prayer by Rev. S. J. Catts, after which Rev. S. J. Catts read the following report:

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION IN CHURCHES.

Realizing from the attempt this morning that generalizing upon this subject can not lead to any satisfactory conclusion, your committee have adopted the plan of seeing every pastor of this Association, or some one from every church.

Bro. McCord: Interest better, but not what we would have it. Passed through good meeting and piety increasing. Sunday-schools well attended. One prayer meeting good; others not so good, because membership scattered.

Bro. Gay: Center Ridge held meeting recently and church revived. Sunday-school prosperous. "Both children and child alike go." No prayer meeting. Pleasant Hill growing; good Sunday-school; Sunbeam Society. No meeting this year, but constantly growing.

Bro. Fortune. Spiritual condition is not what it might be, but upon some lines we are making progress.

Bro. Smoke: Sister Springs—Spiritual condition is better than it has been, and the state of religion is better than for some time. Sunday-school and prayer meeting, which we have not had before.

Bro. Mallory, for the Selma church: The state of religion is good, but I think it is right to make that appeal that we ought always to make for greater effort.

Bro. Lawhon, for Ash Creek: Nothing encouraging that he can see.

Bro. Catts: There is some encouragement in some of my churches. While in one there is very little to encourage, I think that two of them are ready for the manifestation of God's Spirit in a revival. This covers the whole ground, and we leave the Association from this data to draw its own inferences. We are greatly thankful, or should be, for the showing that religion in the churches is on the increase, as far as contributions are concerned, and we think that by next session, if we will all go to work and do our duty, laymen, deacons, preachers and sisters, that our spirits will be made glad in seeing the Spirit of the Lord prevail greatly in the salvation of many souls in the bounds of the Association, and that the State of religion in the churches will thereby greatly advance from what it now is.

After a few remarks by Bro. Lawhon, the report was adopted.

Bro. Lewis Johnson offered the following resolution, which was adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That we hereby tender our thanks to Shiloh church and community for the kind and hospitable manner in which the Association and visitors have been entertained during our session.

Bro. J. F. Ellis read the following report:

REPORT ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The church letters sent up to this Association do not contain sufficient information to enable your committee to make up an accurate report as to the condition of the Sunday-schools of the churches forming this Association. The letters show that there has been a slight increase in the number of scholars in attendance, and that all the churches, but one, have organized schools. We are not, however, informed as to the work done in these schools, nor the result, under the blessing of God, of that work, in the conversion of the scholars.

We recommend fuller information in future letters. The importance of the Sunday-school is too well recognized to require any argument in its behalf. It has become one of the most powerful instruments of the churches in the religious education of its members and their children. No church ca

afford to be without its Sunday-school; but we must be careful not to permit it to supplant the religious home training of our children.

The Sunday-school is not merely for children. Once it was so considered, but we have discovered that it is a good place for grown people. As far as possible every adult should attend the Sunday-school. In spiritual things and knowledge of the word of the Lord, our education is never complete; and, too, the children will take more interest if the older people attend.

We recommend that a collection be taken at every meeting. It will train the children in Christian giving.

For Sunday-school literature we recommend the Kind Words publications under the auspices of our Home Board. These are prepared by men of our faith and order, eminent for learning and piety. We should use Baptist publications so that our younger people may learn the Bible as believed and taught by the Baptists—but should be used alone as helps, and not be substituted for the Bible. The Bible should be the book we study.

The Sunday-school must be under the absolute control of the church, and so conducted as to preserve the fact of this dependence. The church at work must be the idea, and any spirit of independence carefully avoided.

J. F. Ellis, Ch'n.

Amendment:

We recommend that pastors be requested to preach a sermon to teachers and parents especially, some time during the year, as to their duty.

After discussion by brethren T. E. Williams and W. B. Crumpton, the report was adopted as amended.

The Moderator in a few remarks again thanked the people for their hospitality.

Adjourned to meet next year with Mt. Gilead church, Lowndes county. Dismissed with prayer by Dr. D. W. Ramsey.

H. S. D. MALLORY, Moderator.

William F. Moseley, Secretary.

STATISTICS OF SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1890.

Church.	County.	Pastor and P. O.	Clerk.	Clerk's P. O.	No. Ordained Ministers	No. Licensed Ministers.	Membership Last Reported.	Increase by			Dec'e by				Present Membership.	S. S. Officers and Teachers	Sunday-School Pupils.	Prch'ng Sabbaths	Reports Prayer Meeting.	Reports Revival.
								Baptism.	Letter.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Erasure.	Death.						
Ash Creek	Lowndes.	R. M. Burt, Fort Deposit	Mrs. M. E. Bell	Gordonville	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	2	...	...	...	10	4	20	1	.....	.....
Benton.	Lowndes.	S. J. Catts, Pleasant Hill	R. E. Bostwick	Benton	.....	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	11	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
*Bethany	Lowndes.	J. M. Fortune, Pleas. Hill	A. Edwards.	Collirine	.....	.....	18	.....	.....	.....	4	...	...	...	14	4	15	3	.....	.....
†Centre Ridge	Dallas	W. D. Gay, Furman	J. C. Yates.	Carlowville	.....	.....	52	.....	2	.....	1	1	...	...	52	5	35	2	Yes	Yes
‡Mt. Gilead.	Lowndes	S. J. Catts, Pleasant Hill	M. H. Traylor.	Benton	.....	....	30	.....	1	.....	3	...	...	...	28	6	25	3	.....	.....
†Orrville	Dallas	J. M. McCord, Orrville	G. W. Burt	Orrville	1	.....	27	3	7	.....	6	...	...	...	31	7	35	1	Yes	Yes
*Pleas. Hill.	Dallas	W. D. Gay, Furman	J. W. Bailey	Pleasant Hill	1	1	50	5	1	2	3	...	...	3	52	7	50	4	.....	.....
*Providence.	Dallas	J. M. McCord, Orrville	T. W. Berry	Tesso	.....	.....	74	.....	1	.....	3	1	...	...	71	7	25	2,4	.....	.....
Selma.	Dallas	A. J. Dickinson, Selma	A. J. Goodwin.	Selma	2	.....	321	10	14	.....	16	...	2	...	327	18	150	1,2,3,4	Yes	.....
*Shiloh	Dallas	S. J. Catts, Pleasant Hill	P. W. Johnson	Selma	.....	.....	65	4	4	.....	1	...	...	1	71	3	20	1	.....	....
Sister Springs	.....	J. M. Smoke, Soapstone.	M.L. Grumbles	Benton	.....	.....	17	.....	1	3	4	...	...	1	16	.....	12	1,3	Yes	.....
*†Town Creek	Dallas	J. M. Fortune, Pleas. Hill	J. C. Fortune.	Pleasant Hill	.....	.....	55	.....	.....	.....	5	1	...	1	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Sunday-School Superintendents.—Ash Creek—A. D. Lawhon, Benton; Benton—No report; Bethany—A. Edwards, Collirene; Center Ridge—J. P. Melton, Minter; Mt. Gilead; W. H. May, Benton; Orrville A. G Moseley, Orrville; Pleasant Hill—Dr. W. R. Hardy, Pleasant Hill; Providence—Lewis Johnson, Orrville; Selma—H. S. D. Mallory, Selma; Shiloh—P. W Johnson, Selma; Sister Springs—Henry Miley, Benton; Town Creek—Unknown.

*Mistakes in letters as to number of members reported, so we are not sure whether there has been gain or loss in membership during the past year. (See minutes of last year). †Ladies' Aid Societies. ‡By invitation receives the Association next year.

Notice.—Church clerks will please use printed letter blanks, and thus enable us to be more accurate.—Clerk.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1890.

CHURCHES.	Home Missions.	Church Building (not at home).	Foreign Missions	State Missions.	Indigent Ministers.	Bible and Colportage	Ministerial Education Colored Students	Ministerial Education—Howard College	Minutes.	Howard College.	Judson Female Institute.	S. S. Benevolence	S. S. Expenses.	Women's Society. Home Mis'ns.	Women's Society. Foreign Mis'ns	Women's Society. State Missions.	Total.	Pastor's Salary.	Repairs, Fuel, the Poor, etc.	Value of Building and Furniture.	Value of Chapel and Parsonage.
Ash Creek	$.....	$....	$.....	$ 7 05	.....	$.....	$.....	$.....	$ 2 25	$.....	$.....	$.....	$ 4 00	$.....	$.....	$.....	$ 13 30	$....	$.....	$ 600	$..
Benton	.....	.....	.....	.....	$15 00	.....	.....	.....	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15 50	100	. . ...	1000	.. ..
Bethany	4 17	.....	3 63	8 20	.....	.....	.....	8 27	1 00	.....	.....	5 34	.....	.....	.....	.....	30 61	100	.....	1500	.. ..
Centre Ridge	17 55	.....	7 55	18 90	.....	.....	.....	25 00	1 25	.....	.....	.....	10 00	1 35	6 35	8 30	96 25	250	50 00	30 0	.....
Mt. Gilead	9 85	.....	9 85	30 30	.....	.....	.....	20 00	2 00	.....	.....	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	76 15	155	100 00	2500	....
Orrville	33 25	. . .	33 35	33 25	.....	.....	.....	25 00	2 00	130 00	200 00	.....	12 00	.....	.....	.....	468 85	200	600 00	2500	.....
Pleasant Hill	.....	.....	8 25	20 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	.....	.....	.....	10 00	6 00	11 75	15 20	73 45	250	150 00	500	.....
Providence	14 00	....	27 30	17 00	.....	.....	.....	26 00	3 00	16 00	15 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	118 41	400	65 00	2000	....
Selma	250 00	.....	283 34	283 35	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00	.....	1000 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	1821 69	1800	710 00	15000	1500
Sister Springs	.....	.....	.....	1 45	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 70	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shiloh	10 45	....	10 46	28 75	.....	1 14	.....	7 50	2 33	.....	.....	.....	5 50	8 14	8 13	8 13	90 53	175	39 50	1000	.....
Town Creek	6 00	4 90	7 80	4 70	3 00	1 15	4 50	20 20	1 50	3 00	1 00	.....	3 00	7 85	7 80	8 45	84 85	225	53 00	500	.....
Totals	$343 27	$4 90	$391 58	$253 10	$18 00	$2 29	$ 4 50	$132 08	$24 08	$149 00	$1216 00	$ 5 34	$49 5	$23 34	$34 03	$40 08	$ 2892 29	$3655	$1767 50	$ 30100	$1500

Cash collected after missionary sermon, $25 59.

Said to be about $2 000 contributed to Howard College by Selma church.

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS JOHNSON,
THOS. M. JOHNSON,
M. H. TRAYLOR,
Committee.

Judson Female Institute,

MARION, ALA.

THE FIFTY-THIRD SESSION WILL BEGIN OCTOBER 1.

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S. W. AVERETT, President.

August 9, 1890.

C. W. HARE. J. C. POPE.

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